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December 6, 2004

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission The Portals 445 12th Street, SW Room TW_A325 Washington, DC 20554

RE: Access to Unbundled Network Elements, WC Docket No. 03-225

Dear Secretary Dortch:

I am writing to urge you, in taking action on the pending revision of the Unbundled Network Element (UNE) rules, to ensure that payphone companies like mine in West Virginia who depend on having competitive alternatives for their local service needs can be provided with affordable service.

As the Commission has long recognized, payphones play a critical role in meeting the needs of the public for communications on the move-especially in emergencies and disasters such as experienced on September 11. In rural mountainous West Virginia payphones serve as the only available means of communications to many citizens. In order for us to continue in business we must have reliable local service connections at reasonable cost. Our local line costs are my company's largest expense. Without competitive local service such as UNE-P, there are no guidelines on what we will be charged by the incumbent telephone company.

Due to payphones not transmitting data, the broadband industry is not an alternative that we can take, therefore we must relay on UNE-P to remain effective. We have already been forced to remove a large number of our payphones because of insufficient revenue because of soaring operating costs. Without UNE-P the American public is sure to lose out on one of the most important services they rely on.

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Please help to ensure that the FCC's revised UNE rules enable my company to obtain fair and reasonable competitive local service rates.

Thank you for your consideration.

Larry J. Sister President

Cc: Robert Byrd, U.S. Senator John Rockefeller, U.S. Senator

Alan B. Mollohan, U.S. Representative